





Application No:

GB0421809.5

Examiner:

Nicola Keeley

Claims searched:

1-12

Date of search:

26 January 2005

Patents Act 1977: Search Report under Section 17

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Relevant to claims	Identity of document and passage or figure of particular relevance	
X	1-9	EP 0440384 A1 (DE BEERS) See whole document	
X	1-3, 7 and 8	US 5135808 A (KIMOCK) See especially examples	
X	1-3, 7 and 8	EP 0828015 A2 (SANYO) See especially page 1 line 36 to page 4 line 27	
Х	1-3, 7 and 8	US 6080445 A (SUGIYAMA) See especially figure 1 and column 5 line 21 to column 6 line 7	
X	1-3, 7 and 8	US 6284376 B1 (TAKENOUCHI) See especially example 1	
X	1-3, 7 and 8	US 2001/0024737 A1 (UTSUMI) See especially sections [0009]-[0013]	

Categories:

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.

Field of Search:

Search of GB, EP, WO & US patent documents classified in the following areas of the UKCX:

Worldwide search of patent documents classified in the following areas of the IPC 07

C23C

The following online and other databases have been used in the preparation of this search report

WPI, EPODOC, JAPIO